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11 SEP 2006

Application No. 00 909 958.1 - 2224	Ref. <del>KJC\11620-71EP</del> <del>EPA-38958</del>	Date 06.09.2006
Applicant DISCOVERY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.		

**Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC**

The examination of the above-identified application has revealed that it does not meet the requirements of the European Patent Convention for the reasons enclosed herewith. If the deficiencies indicated are not rectified the application may be refused pursuant to Article 97(1) EPC.

You are invited to file your observations and insofar as the deficiencies are such as to be rectifiable, to correct the indicated deficiencies within a period

**of 4 months**

from the notification of this communication, this period being computed in accordance with Rules 78(2) and 83(2) and (4) EPC.

One set of amendments to the description, claims and drawings is to be filed within the said period on separate sheets (Rule 36(1) EPC).

**Failure to comply with this invitation in due time will result in the application being deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).**



Diary Date: 6/1/07
Computer P/11620-71EP(O)
Entered: MS
Checked:

Schneider, M  
Primary Examiner  
for the Examining Division

Enclosure(s): 2 page/s reasons (Form 2906)



The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents**:

**Description, Pages**

1-50	received on	06.08.2001	with letter of	19.07.2001
2a	received on	02.02.2006	with letter of	02.02.2006

**Claims, Numbers**

1-43	received on	02.02.2006	with letter of	02.02.2006
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**Drawings, Sheets**

1-34	received on	06.08.2001	with letter of	19.07.2001
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The following document/s (D) is/are newly referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D7: "A brief overview of current TV set-top box developments", Tan, Q. Zhou, M. Li, J. Yao, D. ; in: Systems, Man, and Cybernetics, 1996., IEEE International Conference on; 14-17 Oct 1996, pp. 2127-2132

D8: "Consumer electronics", Perry, T.S.; in: Spectrum, IEEE, Publication Date: Jan 1997, Volume: 34, Issue: 1, on page(s): 43-48

D9: The Internet Protocol Journal, Dec. 1998, Vol. 3, Nr. 1, loaded from [http://www.noc.garr.it/docum/journal/ipj\\_dic\\_98.pdf](http://www.noc.garr.it/docum/journal/ipj_dic_98.pdf)



- D10: "Networking Requirements and Solutions for a TV WWW Browser", TP David, 1997, loaded from <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/public/etd-82497-16476/materials/etd.pdf>
- D11: "Multimedia information broadcasting using digital TV channels", Atzori, L. De Natale, F.G.B. Gregorio, M.D. Giusto, D.D.; in: Broadcasting, IEEE Transactions on; Dec 1997; Volume: 43, Issue: 4; on page(s): 383-392

The document/s D7-D11 is/are cited by the examiner (see the Guidelines, C-VI, 8.7). A copy/Copies of the document/s is/are annexed to the communication.

1. This communication is in response to the letter of 2 February 2006.

It is (apparently) argued in the letter that the claimed subject matter is inventive because D1 does not disclose "composite video signals, placing digital data thereon by an encoder, extracting them thereafter by a connector, etc." .

However, this subject matter is explicitly shown in each of D7 (first and second section), D8 (sections about "wondrous web TV" and "Competitors galore"), D9 (pp 13-27, see e.g. page 17, second paragraph), D10 (sections 3 and 4, see e.g. page 50) and D11 as a whole.

2. It is not apparent which part of the application could serve as a basis for a new, allowable claim. Instead, refusal of the application under Article 97(1) EPC is to be expected.